It is expected that India will be a net exporter of steel in 1993-94 and also in 1994-95. The ratio of export: import is expected to be about 1:0.60.

Export and import of steel depend on various factors such as demand, availability, price etc. While steel imports have not shown an increasing trend, exports have risen significantly.

Court Cases Filed by Workers in VSP

3497. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the cases filed in the Courts by the Officers/Workers of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant during the last three years ;

(b) what is the present position of those cases ;

(c) the legal expenses incurred by the Management of this Steel Plant in regard to the engagement of Counsels and Payment of fees etc. on each case till date ; and

(d) what steps have been taken by the management to check the occurrence of such cases and with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Details of cases filed in the Court by Officers/Workers of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant during the last three years and the present position are as follows :

	No. of cases filed	Disposed off	Balance pending
1991 . .	9	1	8
1992 . .	10	2	8
1993 .	8	—	8

The above cases mainly relate to the following :

(i) Service matters (17 Nos.)

(ii) Against State Government on matters of displaced person status, caste certificate etc. where Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is a proforma defendant. (7 Nos.)

(iii) Motor vehicle accidents. (3 Nos.)

(c) The legal expenses incurred by the management of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant on these cases are as follows :

	Legal Expenses Rs.
1991	2,585
1992	12,834
1993	—

(d) Regarding the cases pertaining to service matters which are mostly related to policy issues, the employees are being provailed upon by the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant Management not to resort to litigation but to get the issues resolved through the grievance redressal procedures in vogue in the company. In spite of the above, some cases have been filed by the employees which are pending in the court as the concerned employees have not with drawn them.

Mandira Dam Project in Orissa

3498. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Ltd. participated in Mandira Dam Project in Orissa ; and

(b) if so, the extent of their involvement and steps taken by them for rehabilitating the effected people/oustees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) SAIL (earlier known as Hindustan Steel Ltd.) did not participate directly in the Mandira Dam Project in Orissa. The Ministry of Steel, Government of India entrusted the Hirakud Project Admtnistration, which was under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, with the work of investigation and execution of a dam across the river Shank at Mandira. After construction, the dam was handed over to Rourkela Steel Plant in the year 1959. The rehabilitation of the families displaced was done by the Govt. of Orissa. The displaced families were paid compensation and provided with plots for construction of residential houses

in six number resettlement colonies i.e. Laing, Khandapahar, Lachhada, Ushranandalia, Jaidega and Bankibahal which were set up by the State Government. They have also been allotted with land for reclamation in lieu of their WET land acquired.

In addition to the above, 778 displaced persons from Mandira Dam Area have been provided with employment by Rourkela Steel Plant till date. Another 97 local displaced persons of Mandira Dam Area as identified by the local ADM Office are presently undergoing training at the local ITI under a scheme agreed to between the management of Rourkela Steel Plant and State Govrnment authorities. As per the said scheme, cost of training as well as their stipend is being borne by the Management of Rourkela Steel Plant. On successful completion of their training, they will be considered for employment in RSP, as per requirement.

Wrong Evaluation of Tenders by Sail

3499. SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Steel Authority of India Ltd. made a gross mistake in the evaluation of EPI's tender for 300 TPH walking beam type reheating furnaces for the hot strip mill of Bokaro Steel Plant ;

(b) how much loss SAIL has to bear for this miscalculation ;

(c) what action has been taken against the erring officers : and

(d) how this mistake is being corrected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. Steel Authority of India Limited has not made any mistake in the evaluation of EPI's tender.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Investment in the Steel Sector

3509. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about Rs. 19,500 crore is planned to be invested in the steel sector over the next few years ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received so far and cleared ;

(c) what would be the likely capacity addition after the investment is made : and

(d) what is the gestation period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d) The approved 8th Plan outlay for the Ministry of Steel, including various undertakings/organisations under it, is Rs. 14,579 crores. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 2546.17 crores has already been spent during 1992-93, and the balance will be utilised during the remaining years of the 8th Plan. The major schemes being implemented are modernisation of Durgapur & Rourkela Steel Plants, continuous casting machines and modernisation of hot strip mill of Bokaro Steel Plant, coke oven battery No. 10 of Bhilai Steel Plant & hot rolling facilities at Salem Steel Plant, which are likely to result in capacity addition of 1.64 million tonnes per year of crude steel. In addition, private sector investments in the steel sector are also expected. Under the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 91, except for certain locational restrictions, no industrial licence is required to set up new steel plants and entrepreneurs are now only required to file an Industrial Entrepreneurs' Memorandum. Since July, 1991, over 1000 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda have been filed for steel and steel based industries. The additional capacity to be generated and the additional investment thereof will depend upon how many of these projects are eventually implemented. As per available information, the Financial Institutions have already approved assistanre for setting up new steel plants for a capacity of about 4.9 million tonnes, involving an investment of approximately Rs. 8575 crore.